occasions the attacks were repulsed by our troops. In these operations, our troops suffered some casualties while the casualties on the Pakistani side are known to be much heavier. It would not be desirable to disclose details in this regard.

In the talks held last year between the Defence Secretaries of the two countries on the Siachen issue, Pakistan had proposed a settlement on the basis of our withdrawal from the Glacier area. This naturally was not acceptable to us as the Siachen Glacier area, being a part of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, is an integral part of India. We have received no fresh proposal recently from Pakistan.

**National Water Policy**

627. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVIND RAO PATIL:

SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main features of the National Water Policy adopted by Government recently;

(b) whether the above policy contains any proposal to link up different rivers so as to transfer surplus water from the areas prone to floods to the drought-prone areas;

(c) if so, the schemes being drawn up to implement the above proposal; and

(d) the details of proposals contained in the National Water Policy to provide drinking water to villages which do not have such facilities at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a), (b) and (d) Broadly, these are:—

(1) reckoning a drainage basin or sub-basin as the unit for planning;

(2) adoption of itnegrated and multi-disciplinary approach to planning and formulation of projects;

(3) Integrated and coordinated development of surface and ground water;

(4) special attention in planning projects for benefiting disadvantaged groups of the society;

(5) water transfer to needy areas based on a national perspective;

(6) giving primary consideration for provision of drinking water while planning multi-purpose projects;

(7) close integration of water use and land use policies; and

(8) maximising technological inputs into the orderly development of water resources.

(c) The National perspective for water resources development envisages transfer of water from surplus to needy areas by construction of storages and inter-linking of rivers. Studies are being carried out on the Peninsular component of the above perspective.

**Clashes between Indian and Pakistani Troops in Siachen**

628. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news